SOUTHERN AFRICA CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (SACORE) PhD SCHOLARSHIPS AND POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Southern Africa Consortium for Research Excellence (SACORE) in conjunction with University of Zambia School of Medicine (UNZA-SOM) wish to announce the creation of an initiative for encouraging development in research capacity in southern Africa, focused on Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi, with participation of institutions in Botswana, South Africa and the UK. This initiative is funded by the Wellcome Trust of London, one of the world’s largest medical research charities. The focus of the SACORE initiative is targeting training of individuals at PhD and Post-doctoral levels. Five (5) PhD scholarships and four (4) Post Doctoral Fellowships are available for this purpose.

(A) PhD scholarships

- The SACORE PhD scholarships are tailored to primarily provide outstanding young Zambians (and indeed any citizen of the partner Southern African countries-Republic of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana & Malawi) with opportunities to carry out cutting-edge research at UNZA School of Medicine and Tropical Diseases Research Center (TDRC) and thereby strengthen research and post graduate training capacity at the school.
- The programs will focus on both basic science and operational/clinical research questions.
- There are no predetermined research themes but research questions addressing unanswered health issues with potential of cutting-edge basic medical science and evidence based medicine are welcome.
- The PhD programs are 4-year scholarships for Zambian students to pursue doctoral studies at University of Zambia School of Medicine.
- These programs will be conducted with the intent of south-south and south-north research strengthening activities and thus will draw on collaboration among the aforementioned SACORE universities and their European counterparts.
- The scholarships cover a student monthly stipend, university tuition fees and research funds as well as travel/supervisory allowances for the student supervisors for the period of 4 years.
- The deadline for applications is 10th January 2010. The applications should be sent to SACORE-UNZA School of Medicine Wellcome Trust Project Secretariat in the office of the Assistant Dean Research (e-mail: assistdeanresearch@smuth-mru.org.zm). Short listed applicants will be informed and expected to submit a full PhD research proposal by March 2010. Final selection of successful candidates will be in April 2010.

Applicants Eligibility

Applicants for the PhD Scholarships must
- preferably be 35 years of age or younger
- be resident in or citizen of Zambia
- holders of a Masters level degree from a recognised institution,
- demonstrate a commitment and potential to an academic career.
**Application Requirements**

The PhD applicants must have original research ideas and a filled in application form must be submitted in person and electronically to the respective addresses detailed below by 10th January 2010 including:

- A Short CV of the applicant (max. 2 pages).
- At least two (2) contactable referees, one of which must be an academic referee from the master’s programme attended by the applicant.
- A one page summary of the applicant’s current work (max. 500 words).
- A brief Letter of Intent (LOI) giving description of the proposed research (max. 500 words and not more than 2 print pages).
- Copies of the respective certified original certificates.
- **Application form** for this advertised SACORE PhD Scholarship at UNZA School of medicine can be obtained from the SACORE-UNZA School of Medicine Wellcome Trust Project Secretariat of the address detailed below or downloaded from the secretariat website (www.smuth-mru.org.zm).

**(B) Post Doctoral Fellowships**

- The SACORE Post doctoral fellowships are tailored to primarily provide outstanding young Zambians (and indeed any citizen of the partner Southern African countries-Republic of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana & Malawi) with opportunities to carry out cutting-edge research at UNZA School of Medicine and Tropical Diseases Research Center (TDRC) and thereby strengthen research and post doctoral training capacity at the school.
- The programs will focus on both basic science and operational/clinical research questions.
- There are no predetermined research themes but research questions addressing unanswered health issues with potential of cutting-edge basic medical science and evidence based medicine are welcome.
- The Post doctoral programs are Junior research Fellowships to recently qualified Zambian postdoctoral researchers to conduct research at the School of Medicine.
- These programs will be conducted with the intent of south-south and south-north research strengthening activities and thus will draw on collaboration among the aforementioned SACORE universities and their European counterparts.
- The fellowships cover a monthly salary and research support funds as well as travel/supervisory allowances for the host research supervisors for a period of 3 years.
- The deadline for applications is 10th January 2010. The applications should be sent to SACORE-UNZA School of Medicine Wellcome Trust Project Secretariat in the office of the Assistant Dean Research (e-mail: assistdeanresearch@smuth-mru.org.zm). Shortlisted applicants will be informed and expected to submit a full Research proposal by March 2010. Final selection of successful candidates will be in April 2010.

**Applicants Eligibility**

- The applicants for post-doctoral fellowships must be Zambian postdoctoral researchers (Resident in Zambia or in the Diaspora) within five (5) years of attaining their respective PhD degrees.
The post doctoral applicants must have demonstrated research skills (with substantial pre-doctoral research experience such as being co-PI or research assistant on accomplished studies).

The applicants will need to demonstrate experience and achievements (as documented by publication record) appropriate to their proposed research studies.

**Application Requirements**

The Post Doctoral applicants must preferably be Zambians with respective original research ideas initially designed by the applicants themselves and intended to be executed mainly at UNZA School of medicine, TDRC and/or its collaborating research institutions. An application form must be submitted in person and electronically to the respective addresses detailed below by **10th January, 2010** and must include:

- a Short CV of the applicant (max. 2 pages).
- At least two (2) contactable referees, one of which must be an academic referee from the PhD program attained by the respective applicant.
- A two-page summary of the applicant's current work (max. 1000 words).
- A brief Letter of Intent (LOI) giving description of the proposed research (max. 1000 words and not more than 3 pages).
- Copies of the respective certified original certificates.
- Application form for this advertised SACORE Post Doctoral fellowship at UNZA school of medicine can be obtained from the SACORE-UNZA School of Medicine Wellcome Trust Project Secretariat of the address detailed below or downloaded from the secretariat website ([www.smuth-mru.org.zm](http://www.smuth-mru.org.zm)).

**(C) Contact Details**

The SACORE PhD scholarship and Post doctoral fellowship Applications must be addressed to:

The SACORE-UNZA School of Medicine Wellcome Trust Project Secretariat  
The office of the Assistant Dean (Research)  
University of Zambia School of Medicine  
P. O. Box 50110, Lusaka, Zambia  
Telephone: 260-211-252641 or cell 260-955-766223  
E-mail: assistdeanresearch@smuth-mru.org.zm